

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILROADS

STATE OF WISCONSIN

On the Commissioner's Own Motion for a Determination of the Adequacy of Warning Devices at the Grade Crossing of the Wisconsin Central Ltd. Tracks with Old US 51 in the Village of Rothschild, Marathon County

9164-RX-597

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

On August 11, 2005, the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads (OCR) issued an order that required the installation of reused warning devices at the public crossing of the Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL) tracks with Old US 51 in the Village of Rothschild, Marathon County by December 31, 2006 (Crossing No. 392 797L / MP 83.49X). More specifically, the order required the re-use of signals from the West River Drive crossing in the City of Stevens Point, Portage County (Crossing No. 692 553F / CM 249.93). (New automatic flashing lights and gates are being installed at the West River Drive crossing.).

The West River Drive signals are standard mast-mounted 12" incandescent automatic flashing lights. Since the time of the order the Village widened the Old US 51 roadway so that new cantilevered 12" LED automatic flashing lights are needed rather than mast-mounted signals. The West River Drive signals will be re-used at another nearby location (Nelson Road). The signals shall be controlled by island circuits.

The Village also installed traffic signals at the intersection of Old US 51 and Village Way. The intersection is slightly less than 200' from the tracks on the southbound side, but more than 200' on the northbound side of the roadway. However, the Commissioner has determined that an interconnection between the crossing signals and the traffic signals is not necessary. Old US 51 carries about 4300 ADT. Given that there are three southbound traffic lanes it is unlikely that traffic will queue over the tracks from the traffic signals.

The Village inquired whether pavement markings are required. The original order did not require pavement markings. The Village also inquired as to the location of advance warning signs. If placed 750' from the crossing the advance warning sign for southbound traffic would be in advance of the I-39 interchange and for northbound traffic the sign would be in advance of the Village Way intersection. The Village may install the advance warning sign for southbound traffic between the interchange and the crossing and for northbound traffic between the intersection and the crossing.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED,

1. That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall install and maintain **cantilevered 12" LED automatic flashing lights with gates and island circuits and other appropriate appurtenances** in accordance with such plans as are filed with and approved by the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads at the crossing of its tracks with Old US 51 at-grade in the Village of Rothschild, Marathon County by **December 31, 2006** (Crossing No. 392 797L / MP 83.49X).

2. That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall submit to the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads signal and circuit plans with the cost estimate of its proposed installation and upon completion of the signal project, a detailed statement of the actual cost to the Office and to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

3. That the signal installation work herein ordered shall not begin until the district office of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation informs the railroad that they may start such work and such start notice will not be issued until appropriate federal aid or other funding arrangements have been assured. The cost of the new project initiated before the start notice will not be reimbursed with public funds and shall be the responsibility of the railroad.

4. That the **Village of Rothschild** shall install and maintain advance warning signs on each approach. The Village may install the advance warning sign for southbound traffic between the I-39 interchange and the Old US 51 crossing and for northbound traffic between the Village Way intersection and the Old US 51 crossing.

5. That to the extent feasible the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall re-use the existing signal equipment.

6. That jurisdiction is retained.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, (November 17, 2005).

By the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads.

Rodney W. Kreunen
Commissioner of Railroads

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